

sur·round

sur·round (sə-round') *verb, transitive*

sur·round·ed, sur·round·ing, sur·rounds

1. To extend on all sides of simultaneously; encircle.
2. To enclose or confine on all sides so as to bar escape or outside communication.

noun

1. Something, such as fencing or a border, that surrounds: *a fireplace surround*.
2. a. The area around a thing or place: *inflammation extending to the surround of the eye*. b. Surroundings; environment: *"It was the country, the flat agricultural surround, that so ravished me"* (Listener).
3. A method of hunting wild animals by surrounding them and driving them to a place from which they cannot escape.

[Middle English *surrouden*, to inundate, from Old French *suronder*, from Late Latin *superundāre* : Latin *super-*, super- + Latin *undāre*, to rise in waves (from *unda*, wave).]

Synonyms: *surround, circle, compass, encircle, encompass, environ, gird, girdle, ring*. The central meaning shared by these verbs is "to lie around and bound on all sides": *a city surrounded by suburbs; a crown circling a king's head; a mountain peak compassed by fog; a belt encircling her waist; a lake that encompasses an island; oases environed by the desert; a castle girded by a moat; gardens girdling a bird bath; a dinner table ringed with guests*.

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